

they said that just is not long enough for them to clarify, to analyze, to study the different...the different data that is presented to them. Now the gas companies, on the other hand, says that they did not want to go beyond the 90 days. Originally, they didn't want to go beyond the 90 days because they would have to operate at a loss, or at a decreased profit for a longer time period. The amendment that we came up with is that after...the cities would have 180 days to make the final determination, but that the gas companies can put the rate increase into effect 90 days, the current 90 days, and that rate increase will be subject to refund. And, thirdly, to what cities does it apply? Current law was somewhat unclear. Again, this was the original intent of 494 that Senator Abboud brought to us. Currently, it will apply to all cities that are served by a private gas company. It does not apply to companies where we have municipal, a municipal gas company. So, with that explanation, that is what the amendment is. I urge you to adopt it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I rise to support the amendment. I think it further clarifies the laws dealing with the regulation of natural gas in the State of Nebraska. And I think it is a good amendment to add on to LB 494. With that, I urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion? The motion we have now is to return the bill to Select File for the amendment that has been explained. But the motion now is to return the bill. Is there further discussion on that motion? Any closing, Senator Withem?

SENATOR WITHEM: I merely urge the return of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Motion is to return LB 494 from Final Reading to Select File for a specific amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to return, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill is returned to Select File for a